Department of Defense

Joint Services Environmental Management Conference

April 14, 2005
Tampa, FL

Preserve America Program

- White House initiative
- First announced by the First Lady March 3, 2003
- President signed Executive Order 13287 on same day

Preserve America Goals

- **Promote greater shared knowledge about the Nation's past**
- **Increase participation in preserving our irreplaceable heritage**
- **Strengthen regional identities and local pride**
- **Support economic health and well-being of our communities**

Federal Partners for *Preserve America*

- **White House**
- **Advisory Council on Historic Preservation**
- **Departments of Interior, Commerce, Agriculture, Housing & Urban Development**
- **Others (in process)**

Aspects of *Preserve America*

- **Providing assistance**
  - **New grants proposal for 2006**
  - **Highlighting existing Federal funding support**
  - **Web-based technical assistance**
- **Promoting stewardship and partnerships**
  - **Executive Order 13287**

Web-based Technical Assistance

- **Currently available:**
  - ***Federal Programs that Can Support Heritage Tourism*** **available at www.achp.gov/heritagetourism-assist.html**
  - **Information Clearinghouse (including *Sources of Financial Assistance for Historic Preservation Projects* and agency links) www.preserveamerica.gov/clearinghouse**
- **Additional material is under development**

Preserve America
Executive Order 13287

- **Signed March 3, 2003**
- **Goals:**
  - **Promote the benefits of preservation**
  - **Foster recognition of historic properties as assets with economic value**
  - **Encourage public-private partnerships**
  - **Improve Federal stewardship**
  - **Support preservation and economic development through heritage tourism**

Property Management Policy

- **Federal government shall manage historic properties as assets that:**
  - **support agency missions**
  - **contribute to community economic vitality**
  - **foster appreciation of American history and values**

Executive Order 13287: Overview

- **Federal agencies shall take specific actions to:**
  - **build preservation partnerships *including with tribes* [Section 2]**
  - **improve agency planning and accountability [Section 3]**
  - **improve Federal stewardship of historic properties [Section 4]**
  - **promote preservation through heritage tourism [Section 5]**

Improving Agency Planning and Accountability

- **Federal agencies must report on:**
  - **Condition of their historic properties and suitability for contributing to community economic development**
  - **Compliance of regulations, etc., with Sections 110 and 111 (revise if needed)**
  - **Progress (triennially) in identifying, protecting, and using historic properties**
- **ACHP will then report (triennially) to President on state of Federal historic properties**

Review of Section 3 Reports

- **Section 3 Reports submitted by agencies to the ACHP and DOI for review.**
- **Initial submissions will serve as baseline information regarding the agency's historic inventory, preservation program and contribution to local economic development.**
- **Subsequent reports will be analyzed and findings and recommendations included in a Report to the President.**
- **The first Report to the President is due in February 2006.**

Federal Agency Reporting

- 32 Agencies submitted Reports in response to September 30, 2004 deadline.
- Majority of the reports adhered to the Advisory Guidelines for Section 3 Reports issued by the ACHP in October 2003.
- Reports vary greatly in content and presentation of information.
- A number of agencies had the reports prepared by contractors.

DoD's Section 3 Report

- **DoD submitted comprehensive report for the entire agency.**
- **Comprehensive reports for each agency would have been helpful since the Corps of Engineers and services are distinct and manage different types of properties.**
- **Report highlighted that services have different approach to Federal stewardship.**
- **Approach to partnerships with local communities and other non-DoD agencies also handled differently.**

Inventory and Survey Data

- DoD has some of the oldest and longest owned Federal properties in the Nation.
- Report focuses primarily on buildings and districts rather than on objects, archeology, associated artifacts, records and remains.
- Collection of historic property data is managed by installations and fed into DoD's FAD.
- Update of surveys and FAD occur periodically based upon DoD-wide and service directives.

Condition assessments for historic properties

- DoD does not monitor the conditions of all historic assets under its jurisdiction.
- Instead, the conditions of historic properties are tracked by services at the installation level.
- Currently, conditions of properties under each service ranges from poor to good.
- There does not appear to be a systematic approach within DoD or the individual services to identify vacant, underutilized, excess properties on a regular basis.
- Planning for maintenance and repair of real property is tied to the each services' operating budgets.

Condition assessments for historic properties

- **The Army conducts a self assessment that is included in the Installation Status Report (ISR).**
- **The Corps does not have a system in place to provide quantitative data on general conditions.**
- **Neither the Navy nor the Air Force specify how they track the conditions of historic properties.**
- **Report does not specify what data, beyond cost of rehabilitation, are considered when property is considered excess to DoD's mission.**

Section 110 Program

- **DoD has a comprehensive DoD-wide directive that assists services in complying with Section 110.**
- **Preparation of facility ICRMPs are the focus of DoD's preservation program.**
- **Each service also has developed agency-wide policy and procedures, e.g. *Army Strategy for the Environment, Navy Instruction 4000.35A, Air Force Instruction 32-7065.***
- **Each service should provide to ACHP and DOI for review a copy of Section 110 policies and procedures.**

Section 111 Program

- **DoD complies with Section 111 through implementation of the Military Housing Privatization Initiative (MHPI) and Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Program.**
- **The Corps transfers excess properties to GSA and did not address leasing options.**
- **The Army has Army Regulations 200-4 and 405-90 to guide its disposal of real estate.**
- **The Navy and Marine Corps indicate that they would adhere to *Enhanced Use* leasing authority under 10 U.S.C. 2667 for more flexibility in leasing.**
- **The Air Force coordinates Section 111 with Section 106 reviews.**

Suitability for local community economic development

- **Limitations on DoD's full participation in local economic development initiatives include:**
  - **location of properties**
  - **nature of properties**
  - **security and safety concerns**
  - **restricted movement on bases**
  - **anti-terrorism and force protection regulations**
  - **Congressionally mandated restrictions regarding use**

Identification of historic preservation opportunities and partnerships

- **DoD and Service policies are all supportive of historic preservation and partnerships.**
- **In the wake of September 11, 2001, approach to partnerships and support of local economic development initiatives has been re-evaluated.**
- **Where appropriate, and when access can be managed, the public can visit historic properties.**
- **Outreach through educational materials and web sites is frequently used by services.**

Identification of historic preservation opportunities and partnerships

- The Army's "Preserving American Heritage" list those facilities with existing visitation programs.
- The Air Force partners with local communities, as appropriate, to create community resources on a base in New Mexico.
- The Department of the Navy has affiliations with private organizations in Hawaii so that they can visit parts of memorials.
- All services continue to explore how to support museum programs where limited access is required.

Improving Federal Stewardship

- **ACHP and DOI will provide written comments on each agency's Section 3 Reports.**
- **Purpose of comments is to ensure that the first Section 3 Progress Report, which is due by September 30, 2005, addresses all relevant information in EO 13287.**
- **Also important to ensure that the ACHP is comparing the same data when preparing the Report to the President.**

Preliminary ACHP/DOI comments on the DoD Section 3 Report

- **Each service should submit a comprehensive report that can better measure its progress.**
- **The definition of Historic Property needs to follow that in the National Historic Preservation Act and reports should address all types of properties.**
- **Schedule and methodology for surveying historic properties not previously evaluated is needed.**
- **Better defined procedures for assessing conditions of historic properties need to be established.**

Future of *Preserve America* Initiative

- **Continue emphasis on heritage tourism as economic development tool**
- **Look for best practices and models to share**
- **Continue to pursue funding support**
- **Involve public and private sector in exploring opportunities that will encourage better stewardship of Federal historic properties.**
- **Share outcome of Section 3 Reports with the public.**
- **Work closely with agencies to improve Federal stewardship based upon conclusions reached in their Section 3 Reports.**

For Further Information Contact:

- ***www.preserveamerica.gov***
- ***www.achp.gov***
- **Office of Preservation Initiatives, ACHP, 202-606-8505**
- **Office of Communications, Education, and Outreach, 202-606-8503**
- **Office of Federal Agency Program 202-606-8503**